

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI
WESTERN DIVISION**

**MEMORANDUM OF MATTERS DISCUSSED AND
ACTION TAKEN AT PRETRIAL CONFERENCE**

PENDING CHARGE: On January 3, 2023, the Grand Jury returned a two-count Indictment charging Defendant Nicholas Eugene Parris and five other defendants¹ with instigating, aiding, and assisting in the escape of co-defendants Trevor Scott Sparks and Sergio Perez Martinez from confinement (Count Two).

The following matters were discussed and action taken during the pretrial conference:

TRIAL COUNSEL:

Government: Bruce A. Rhoades and Robert M. Smith

Case Agent: No case agent; Scott Hamann financial analyst/paralegal

Defense: Preston Lee Jones

Investigator: Mark Reeder

OUTSTANDING MOTIONS: No outstanding motions.

TRIAL WITNESSES:

Government: no stipulations anticipated; 15-20 without stipulations

Defendant: 4-5 witnesses, including the Defendant

TRIAL EXHIBITS:

Government: approximately 35-40 exhibits

¹ Defendants Trevor Scott Parks and Sergio Perez Martinez were also charged with escaping from confinement (Count One). On April 19, 2023, Defendant Steven Lydell Williams Sr. pled guilty to Count Two and is awaiting sentencing. On April 20, 2023, Defendant Dawn Louise Branstetter pled guilty to Count Two and is awaiting sentencing. On April 26, 2023, Defendant John Douglas Baxter pled guilty to Count Two and is awaiting sentencing. Defendant Trevor Scott Parks is scheduled to change his plea on June 29, 2023. Defendant Sergio Perez Martinez has not been apprehended.

Defendant: approximately 10-20 exhibits

DEFENSES: General denial

POSSIBLE DISPOSITION:

(X) Definitely for trial; () Possibly for trial; () Likely a plea will be worked out

TRIAL TIME: 3 days total

Government's case including jury selection: 2½ day(s)

Defendant: ½ day

STIPULATIONS: No stipulations anticipated.

UNUSUAL QUESTIONS OF LAW: No unusual questions of law.

FILING DEADLINES:

Witness and Exhibit Lists

Government: None filed. **Due on or before July 5, 2023.**

Defendant: None filed. **Due on or before July 5, 2023.**

Counsel are requested to list witnesses in alphabetical order on their witness list.

Exhibit Index, if required by the District Court, Voir Dire, Jury Instructions: Due on or before July 12, 2023.

Please Note: Jury instructions must comply with Local Rule 51.1

Motion in Limine: Due on or before July 12, 2023.

TRIAL SETTING: Criminal jury trial docket set for July 17, 2023.

Please note: Per the representation of the Government, Judge Kays indicated an intention during the last court proceeding to set this matter for trial on Tuesday, July 18, 2023.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

/s/ Lajuana M. Counts

LAJUANA M. COUNTS

UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE